

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Music to Prepare for Worship:

Scripture: Mark 16:1-8

Hymn: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" **#157**

Gathering Prayer:

Holy One, we gather here in wonder, in awe, in expectation. Though we have heard Easter's message many times before, may the good news of your life-restoring love in Christ thrill us anew. May we be transformed by the excitement of your presence among us this day, that like the women leaving the tomb, we might be strengthened to share our faith with others in words of hope and acts of compassion. We pray this in the name of the risen and living Christ. Amen.

Welcome & the Life and Ministry of Our Church

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

Theme Conversation: "The Invisible String."

Musical Offering:

Scripture: Mark 16:9-20

Message: "The Resurrection of Love."

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

Hymn: "Joy Comes With The Dawn" (vs. 1) **#166**

Prayers for Healing and Transformation: (Koshi Chimes played.)
The Lord's Prayer (Spoken)

WE SHARE IN COMMUNION

Invitation to Offer Our Gifts and Receive God's Gifts

Reverse Offering: For the Stittsville Food Bank.

Song of Dedication: (#541 (VU))
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures high and low.
Give thanks to God in love made know,
Creator, Word and Spirit One. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication:

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving:

One: The God of Love is with us! And so our hearts are uplifted in Joy! Let us give thanks to God for all the blessings in our lives.
One: O Eternal our God, we are so filled with joy on this Easter morn, that we cannot hold back from worshipping you. The fingerprints of your extravagant love are imprinted upon all of creation, from the vast expanse of the cosmos, to the most minute sub-atomic particle. You made us in your own image and stretched out your arms to hold us in your care. Even though we have wandered away, still you draw us close into the embrace of your mercy. And so with people in every age and place we offer you our praise:

All: (#932) Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving:

One: O God, in Jesus Christ your word of grace has been uttered in our ears and written in our hearts. His teachings comfort and challenge us. His compassion heals and frees us. Because of the message and actions of Jesus were so earth-shaking, those most threatened by the disruption of the status quo subjected him to suffering and even death. But you, O God, through Jesus' new life, proclaim that your love is stronger than hate and violence, and this good news brought to birth a world-changing boldness of faith in Jesus' followers. And so, recalling his barrier-breaking death, and proclaiming his tomb-shattering resurrection, we pray, O God, that you will send your Comforter Spirit upon these gifts of bread and cup, that in receiving them, our lives might become like Christ's; bringing your message of healing, hope-giving love to all the aching world. Through Christ, with Christ, in the unity of your Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty God. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup:**Prayer Following Communion:**

O God, your life-giving love in Jesus is so strong, that his followers believed that he lived among them even beyond the grave. May we also know your love so strongly in our lives, that we might be renewed in our faith and carry your love into the world. As we have been blessed through this bread and cup, help us to be a blessing to all we meet. In the name of the risen Christ we pray. Amen.

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

Hymn: "Joy Comes With The Dawn" (vs. 2 & 3)

#166

Commissioning and Blessing**Threefold Amen:****Music To Inspire Us As We Go:**

STITTSVILLE UNITED CHURCH



(Photo - "The Garden Tomb" - By Rev. Grant Dillenbeck)

Easter
April 12, 2020